

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending in this application. Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

A personal interview¹ was conducted with Examiner Chen at the U.S. Patent Office on December 18, 2001.

With regard to claim 1, it was respectfully submitted during the Interview that in Fig. 8 of **Mochizuki** that local interconnection 22 does not cover the entire portion of the upper electrode 19 with an area which is larger than an area where the upper electrode 19 contacts with the oxide dielectric film 18.

In response, Examiner Chen took the position in Figs. 20, 22 and 23, of **Mochizuki** the local interconnection 22 does in fact cover the entire portion of upper electrode 19.

However, it is respectfully submitted that **Mochizuki** fails to provide any figures which illustrate the plain view for the respective embodiments of Figs. 20, 22 and 23. Thus, **Mochizuki** fails to disclose or fairly suggest the features of claim 1, since claim 1 calls for *forming a local*

¹The comments section of the Interview Record Reads as follows:
The Examiner maintains his position that Fig. 17, 19, 20, 21, 22 which are drawn to a different embodiment than Fig. 8 disclose the features of claim 1. With respect to claim 22, the fixed size of the local interconnections fails to constitute a patentable distinction.

Response

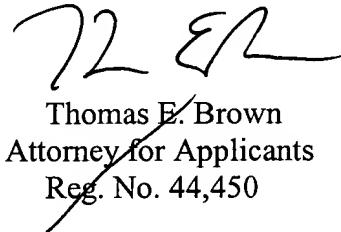
Serial No.: 09/321,605

interconnection covering an entire portion of the upper electrode with an area which is larger than an area where the upper electrode contacts with the oxide dielectric film in a plan view.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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